

7/22/21

Project Overview:

- ConnectME grant to take Hope/Appleton to the 100% Fiber to the Home (FTTH) level*
 - 2 yr grant project: July 2021 – June 2023
- New fiber build
 - 2.79 miles in Hope
 - 2.52 miles in Appleton
- 1,034 new installs covered in the 2 yr grant project
- Total Project cost: \$1,764,380.00
 - \$705,752.00 ConnectME grant (40%)
 - \$1,058,628.00 LCI/Tidewater capital (60%)

*Note: the grant covers addresses in Hope & Appleton that are within the LCI/Tidewater Telecom exchange area. There are approx. 35 addresses in the southwest corner of Appleton that are in the Consolidated Communication area and as such, are not included. Roads **not** covered are: Fishtown Rd., Esancy Rd., Hatchery Ln., Mitchell Hill Rd., Dorman Ln. Collinstown Rd south of Burkettville Rd

Pricing/Terms:

- O.P.E.N.™ Fiber Optic Broadband
 - 50 x 10 Mbps: \$64.95*
 - 100 x 20 Mbps: \$89.95*
 - 50 x 50 Mbps: \$109.95*
 - 100 x 100 Mbps : \$129.95*
 - All above include:
 - Phone service and 1,000 long distance minutes within the Continental US.
 - Optical Network Terminal (ONT) and Battery back-up unit.
 - 1 jack and inside wiring within 10' of the service entry included.
 - **NO** standard broadband installation fee.
 - Standard Install Includes first 500' of aerial fiber drop wire (or 250' of buried/conduit drop wire) from our pole to house.
 - \$1 per ft for additional aerial fiber.
 - \$2 per ft for additional buried/conduit fiber.
 - Customer is responsible for installing conduit and ensuring it is passable and that a pull string is in place.
 - NO Contract required.
 - LCI/Tidewater Router required.

*Required taxes and fees not included

Questions? -- email us at --- specialprojects@Tidewater.net

Apply beginning JULY 1st -- at www.Tidewater.net — use the special Hope/Appleton application link

New Fiber Build Process: Approx 5.3 miles of new fiber optic cabling will be constructed on the following roads that currently do not have fiber optic network coverage:

Hope: Loon Ln; Main St./Hwy 17 (from Pushaw Rd. to Camden townline) , Notch Rd., True Ln., Laukka Ln., Faith Ln., Overlook Dr.

Appleton: Back Rd., Pettingill Ln., Gushee Rd., Lodge Ln., Hillside Rd. Guinea Ridge Rd (from Burkettville Rd. to Union townline) . Appleton Ridge Rd (from Burkettville Rd to Union townline)

This process consists of field surveys; engineer design specs.; line construction work; fiber splicing work. The new fiber build phase will take place from July 2021 through March 2022.

Application and Installation Process:

- Applications received from eligible Hope/Appleton residents will be processed as a part of a separate ConnectME project management group (i.e., they will not be included in our general new install backlog workload).
- All pending applications received from Hope & Appleton prior to July 1, 2021, that have not already been scheduled, will be automatically included in the ConnectME grant project group.
 - These pre-July 1, 2021 applications:
 - will receive the pricing and terms noted above,
 - will be the first group to be scheduled for installation.
 - if the applicant already paid an Aid to Construction fee that may need to be reduced due to the new terms, the balance will be credited to that customer's account.
- All applicants after July 1, 2021 will be asked to complete the new online application for the Hope/Appleton ConnectME project.
 - They will be asked to either use a direct link emailed to them, or they can simply go to www.Tidewater.net - **use the Hope/Appleton online app. link**
- Once the application is received, the applicant will be contacted by a Customer Service Rep regarding any additional information that may be required and next steps.
- We anticipate beginning the first installations in September 2021.

Planning, Communication and Patience This is a large technical infrastructure project that will be completed over a 2-year period. Over 1,000 households in the combined Hope and Appleton area will be eligible for service.

LCI/Tidewater will be working closely with the Broadband Committees in both Hope and Appleton to establish an efficient installation process that will be fair, while best meeting the needs of both communities.

It is our hope that we can complete over 1,000 installations in less than 2 years. We know that you and your neighbors are eager to have fiber optic broadband installed at your address. With patience, good planning, and effective communication, this goal can, and will, be achieved.

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